

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER

2008 AUG 21 PM 4:15

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVESU.S. House of Representatives  
110<sup>th</sup> CongressEMPLOYEE  
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the annual Financial Disclosure Statements of those persons required to file them. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms publicly available as soon as possible after they are received. Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.

Name of Employee (print or type): Ricky WrightName of Accompanying Family Member (if any): N/ARelationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_Date of Departure and Date of Return: August 5 - August 6 2008Dates at Personal Expense: N/A

Itinerary (cities of departure - destination - return): \_\_\_\_\_

Midland, TX - Chihuahua City, Chihuahua, Mexico, - Midland, TXSponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Motorm

Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify "yes" for each item by checking the corresponding box):

1. ☒ the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
2. ☐ the Privately-Sponsored Travel Approval Form completed by the employee; and
3. ☒ the Committee on Standards' letter approving my participation on this trip.

I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒

If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

CONAWAY

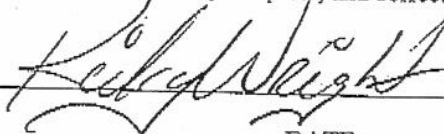
## TRAVEL EXPENSES:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For employee:	\$630 <sup>00</sup>	\$197 <sup>75</sup>	\$102 <sup>10</sup>
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For employee:		
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE:



DATE:

8/21/08

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

NAME OF SUPERVISING MEMBER:



SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING MEMBER:



DATE:

8/21/08

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM**  
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

*Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.*

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): MOTRAN Alliance, Inc. (Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance)  
P.O. Box 60816, Midland, Texas 79711
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): Congressman K. Michael Conaway, Texas 11  
Ricky Wright, District Director, Congressman K. Michael Conaway (See attached explanations)
6. Dates of travel: August 5-6, 2008
7. Cities of departure – destination – return: Depart Midland, Texas, USA; Arrive Chihuahua City, Chihuahua,  
Mexico; Return Midland, Texas, USA
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
  - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: ☐ or
  - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: ☒ or
  - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations. ☐
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
  - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: ☒ or
  - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered: ☐If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: The MOTRAN Alliance, Inc.,  
in conjunction with the States of Chihuahua and Sinaloa, Mexico initiated and support the development of the  
La Entrada al Pacifico Trade Corridor. The meeting is being held in Chihuahua, Mexico, to (see attached)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: The MOTRAN Alliance is a  
501(c)6 non-profit established for the purpose of promoting the La Entrada al Pacifico Trade Corridor and  
promoting the economic development potential of the Midland-Odessa area through improved transportation.
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (*i.e.*, a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: Air travel is being chartered on Deer Horn Aviation, King Air 200, from Midland  
International Airport, for a roundtrip price of \$619.55 per person. This price is comparable to travel on  
commercial carriers (American-Continental) that provide service to Chihuahua. Chartering this (see attached)
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒
16. I represent that either (*check one of the following*):
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ *or*
- b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation: ☒
- If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \_\_\_\_\_
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: This event includes meetings with Reyes Baeza,  
Governor of Chihuahua, as well as, other state and federal officials from Chihuahua, Mexico.
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Westin Soberano, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$149.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: The location of the hotel provides easy access to state  
and city offices, as well as, the necessary meeting rooms and space for on-site meetings between  
officials from all three states.

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total <i>Transportation</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Lodging</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Meal</i> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$619.55	\$149.00	\$100.00
For each accompanying family member			

	<i>Other</i> Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	NA	
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: James Beauchamp

Name and title: James Beauchamp, President

Organization: MOTRAN Alliance, Inc.

Address: P.O. Box 60816, Midland, Texas 79711

Telephone number: 432-563-6240

Fax number: 432-563-1288

Email Address: James@motran.org

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct  
U.S. House of Representatives  
HT-2, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-7103 (phone)  
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)  
(202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

5. Congressman Conaway and his District Director, Ricky Wright, are being invited to participate in discussions regarding the development of the La Entrada al Pacifico Corridor (National High Priority Corridor-designated by Congress) and rehabilitation for the South Orient Rail Line (Owned by the State of Texas and operated by Texas Pacifico a subsidiary of Grupo Mexico) The La Entrada al Pacifico Corridor and South Orient Rail Lines travel through the Texas Congressional District 11. Currently, an economic development prospect in the Congressman's District is contingent upon improvements to the South Orient Rail. During this trip he will also be meeting with Chihuahua Governor Reyes Baeza and federal congressional delegates from the State of Chihuahua to discuss prioritization of Mexican projects and coordination of Mexican and US road and rail improvements.

#### 8. AGENDA

August 5, 2008

1:30 pm	Depart Midland (MAF)
3:00pm	Arrive Chihuahua
3:10pm	Clear Mexican Customs (Governor's Hanger)
3:30pm	Arrive at Westin Soberano
4:15pm	Construction Updates-Texas, Chihuahua, Sinaloa
5:15pm	Break
5:30pm	Strategic Planning-Texas, Chihuahua, Sinaloa
6:30pm	Networking time for participants
8:00pm	Dinner for participants

August 6, 2008

8:00am	Breakfast
9:00am	Tour of Chihuahua City Industrial Complex
9:30am	Presentation by Alejandro Cano, Secretary of Industrial Development
10:30am	Arrive at City Hall for meeting with Chihuahua City officials (Sister City for Midland, Texas)
11:30am	Meet with Governor Baeza (Governor's Palace)
12:30pm	Meet with Federal Delegates (Governor's Palace)
1:00pm	Return to Airport
1:30pm	Depart Chihuahua
3:00pm	Arrive Midland

12. facilitate meetings with Chihuahua and Sinaloa officials as Chihuahua is the midpoint between US and Mexican planning partners. In addition, having the meeting in Chihuahua was necessary to accommodate the schedule of Governor Baeza from Chihuahua.

14. aircraft also allows the trip to be made without having to schedule connections through Dallas or Houston, thus allowing the entire trip to be completed in a 24 hour period to accommodate the schedules of other attendees.



U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

**PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM**  
**For Members, Officers and Employees**  
**(submit directly to the Committee)**

This form should be completed by House Members, officers or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule XXV, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form.

*Members, officers and employees seeking approval for travel are urged to submit all forms to the Committee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. A copy of this form will be made available for public inspection. Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.*

1. Name of Member, officer or employee (traveler): Ricky Wright
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): MOTRAN Alliance, Inc. (Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance) P.O. Box 60816, Midland, Texas 79711
3. Travel destination(s): Depart Midland, Texas, USA; Arrive Chihuahua City, Chihuahua, Mexico; Return Midland
4. a. Dates of travel: August 5-6, 2008  
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
If yes, dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/A  
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
b. If yes, check one of the following:  
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: ☒ or  
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested: ☐  
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box): ☒

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your official or representational duties:  
Currently an economic development prospect in my TX-11 District is contingent upon improvements to the South Orient Rail. Will meet with Chihuahua governor and other Mexican officials to discuss project priorities.
9. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

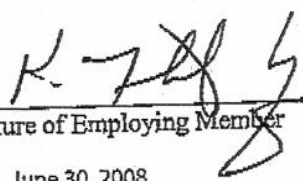
Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: K. Michael ConawayOffice address: 6 Desta Dr., Ste. 2000 Midland, TX 79705Phone number: 432.687.2390Email address: ricky.wright@mail.house.gov

**NOTE:** You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need contact you if additional information is required.

**FOR STAFF:****TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:**

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

  
Signature of Employing MemberDate: June 30, 2008

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct  
U.S. House of Representatives  
HT-2, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-7103 (phone)  
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Version date 9/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct



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DAWN KELLY MOBLEY,  
COUNSEL TO THE CHAIRWOMAN

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF  
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515-6328

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TODD UNGERECHT  
COUNSEL TO THE RANKING  
REPUBLICAN MEMBER

SUITE HT-2, THE CAPITOL  
(202) 226-7103

July 17, 2008

Mr. Ricky Wright  
Office of the Honorable K. Michael Conaway  
6 Desta Drive, Suite 2000  
Midland, TX 79705

Dear Mr. Wright:

Pursuant to House Rule XXV, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip to Chihuahua, Mexico scheduled for August 5 to 6, 2008 sponsored by the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance.

This approval permits your acceptance of round trip charter air travel between Midland, Texas and Chihuahua, Mexico. Pursuant to the Committee's *Travel Guidelines and Regulations* of February 20, 2007, travel on charter aircraft for officially-connected travel is generally prohibited. The Committee may, however, permit charter travel in certain limited circumstances such as when "it is demonstrated that the cost of such travel does not exceed the cost of available business-class transportation," or other "exceptional circumstances" are demonstrated by the private sponsor. According to the Private Sponsor Form and accompanying information that you submitted, the cost of the roundtrip charter flight is \$619.55 per person, which the trip sponsor indicated is "comparable" to travel on commercial air carriers.<sup>1</sup> In addition, we understand that travel via commercial aircraft would prohibit the participation of other, non-congressional trip invitees. Based on these circumstances, we have approved your request to accept charter air travel in connection with your trip to Mexico.

You must complete an Employee Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including all attachments. You must also include a copy of the Traveler Form completed by you and signed by your employing Member. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of that statement.

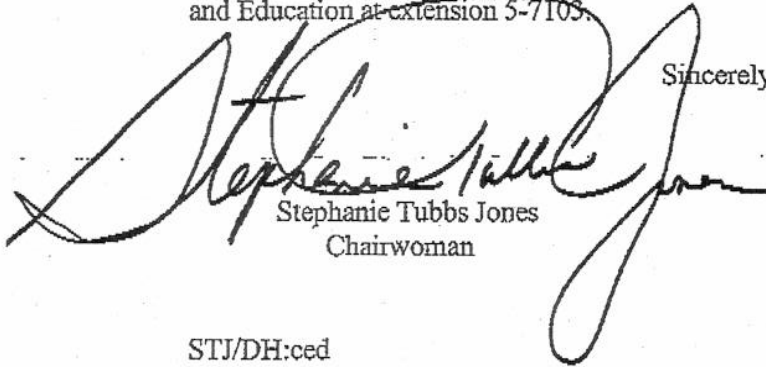
<sup>1</sup> A search by Committee counsel revealed commercial airfare for those dates at \$850 or more, and involving several layovers or plane changes.

Mr. Ricky Wright  
July 17, 2008  
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Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be turned over to the Clerk of the House and disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Tubbs Jones  
Chairwoman



Doc Hastings  
Ranking Republican Member

STJ/DH:ced